

2014 Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge White-tailed Deer Harvest Report

Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Saginaw, MI

The white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is designed to regulate harvest and distribute hunting pressure by allocating permits across 13 time periods (i.e., hunt choice codes). The current system is a quota based system in which the number of hunting days, method, and permit type (antlerless versus either sex) are set prior to the hunt. From June – August 2014 hunters could apply on-line or through standard parcel U.S. mail service for the hunt of their preference (hunters could only apply for one hunt). Hunters were randomly selected until the quota was met for each hunt. Selected hunters were notified via electronic mail or through standard mail. In 2014, two changes were made to the administration of the deer hunt. Any permits that were not purchased after the initial lottery were made available on a first come first served basis to the general public. In addition, the hunt areas were consolidated into one deer hunting area.

In 2014, we received 1,478 applications for 661 permits and issued 409 permits after the lottery (Table 1, Figure 1). The remaining 252 permits were purchased as “leftover” permits. Hunters are required to report harvest via a post-season survey. According to the survey hunters reported harvesting 149 deer, which varied by age and gender; 29% adult male, 5% fawn male, 57% adult doe, and 9% fawn doe (Table 2). Hunter success averaged 23%, which was above the 5-year average of 21% (Table 1). Hunter success by season ranged from 3% (late archery) hunt codes 213, 7% (non-ambulatory shotgun) hunt codes 205-206, 15% (early archery) hunt codes 202 - 204, 19% (muzzleloader) hunt codes 211-212, and 53% (shotgun) hunt codes 207-210, and (Tables 2 - 3).

Table 1. Permits available and issued, registered harvest, and success rate for all white-tailed deer (1982 – 2014) hunts at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Year	Permits		Registered harvest	Success (%)
	Available	Issued		
1982	4000	3973	437	11
1983	2350	2375	285	12
1984	1650	1667	150	9
1985	898	857	60	7
1986	^a	^a	^a	^a
1987	659	600	3	0.5
1988	900	867	26	3
1989	705	725	116	16
1990	^b	^b	^b	^b
1991	455	455	182	40
1992	1280	1282	564	44
1993	715	527	127	24
1994	770	^b	229	^b
1995	925	^b	241	^b
1996	920	769	246	32
1997	910	799	220	28
1998	1010	829	227	27
1999	925	761	211	28
2000	957	765	227	30
2001	820	764	156	20
2002	861	784	172	22
2003	946	835	235	28
2004	1221	1083	329	30
2005	886	724	201	28
2006	886	774	256	33
2007	766	634	172	27
2008	901	714	240	34
2009	981	927	212	23
2010	1216	1058	220	21
2011	926	799	183	23
2012	806	659	113	17
2013	566	469	93	20
2014	661	661	149	23

^a White-tailed deer hunt was not held due to flooding.

^b Missing data.

Table 2. Hunt area, applicants, permits available and issued, registered harvest by age and gender, and success rate by hunt code for the 2014 white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Hunt Code ^a	Applicants	Permits		Male ^b		Female ^b		Total Harvest	Success (%) ^c
		Available	Issued	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn		
201	89	15	15	1	0	1	1	3	20
202	48	50	51	0	0	3	1	4	8
203	382	25	27	13	0	0	0	13	48
204	50	75	75	0	0	6	0	6	8
205	26	18	16	5	0	0	0	5	31
206	10	18	18	5	0	1	0	6	33
207	200	20	20	12	1	1	1	15	75
208	62	100	100	0	4	23	4	31	31
209	192	20	20	4	1	3	0	8	40
210	50	100	100	0	0	21	4	25	25
211	230	20	20	3	0	0	0	3	15
212	91	100	102	0	1	22	3	26	26
213	48	100	97	0	0	4	0	4	4
Total	1478	661	661	43	7	85	14	149	23

^a 201 = September 20 – 21, 202 = October 1 – 6, 203 = November 1 – 6, 204 = November 1 – 6, 205 = November 15 – 16, 206 = November 17 – 18, 207 = November 20 – 24, 208 = November 20 – 24, 209 = November 26 – 30, 210 = November 26 – 30, 211 = December 6 – 12, 212 = December 6 – 12, 213 = December 23 – January 1.

^b Hunter reported data subject to error.

^c Success was determined by the following formula: Success = (Total Harvest/Permits Issued)*100.

Table 3. Permits available and issued, registered harvest by gender and age, and success rates by hunting season for the 2014 white-tailed deer hunt at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.

Hunt Season ^a	Permits		Male ^d		Female ^d		Total Harvest	Success (%) ^e
	Available	Issued	Adult	Fawn	Adult	Fawn		
Youth	15	15	1	0	1	1	3	20
Early archery ^b	150	153	13	0	9	1	23	15
NA – shotgun	36	34	10	0	1	0	11	31
Shotgun	240	240	16	6	48	9	79	33
Muzzleloader	120	122	3	1	22	3	29	24
Late archery ^c	100	97	0	0	4	0	4	4
Total	661	661	43	7	85	14	149	23

^a Hunt season refers to the combined hunt codes for the corresponding State Of Michigan hunting season (e.g., early archery information is hunt codes 201 and 202 combined).

^b Early archery refers to season held prior to the statewide firearm opener (November 15th).

^c Late archery refers to season held after the statewide firearm season closes (November 30th).

^d Hunter reported data is subject to error.

^e Success was determined by the following formula $\text{Success} = (\text{Total Harvest} / \text{Permits Issued}) * 100$.

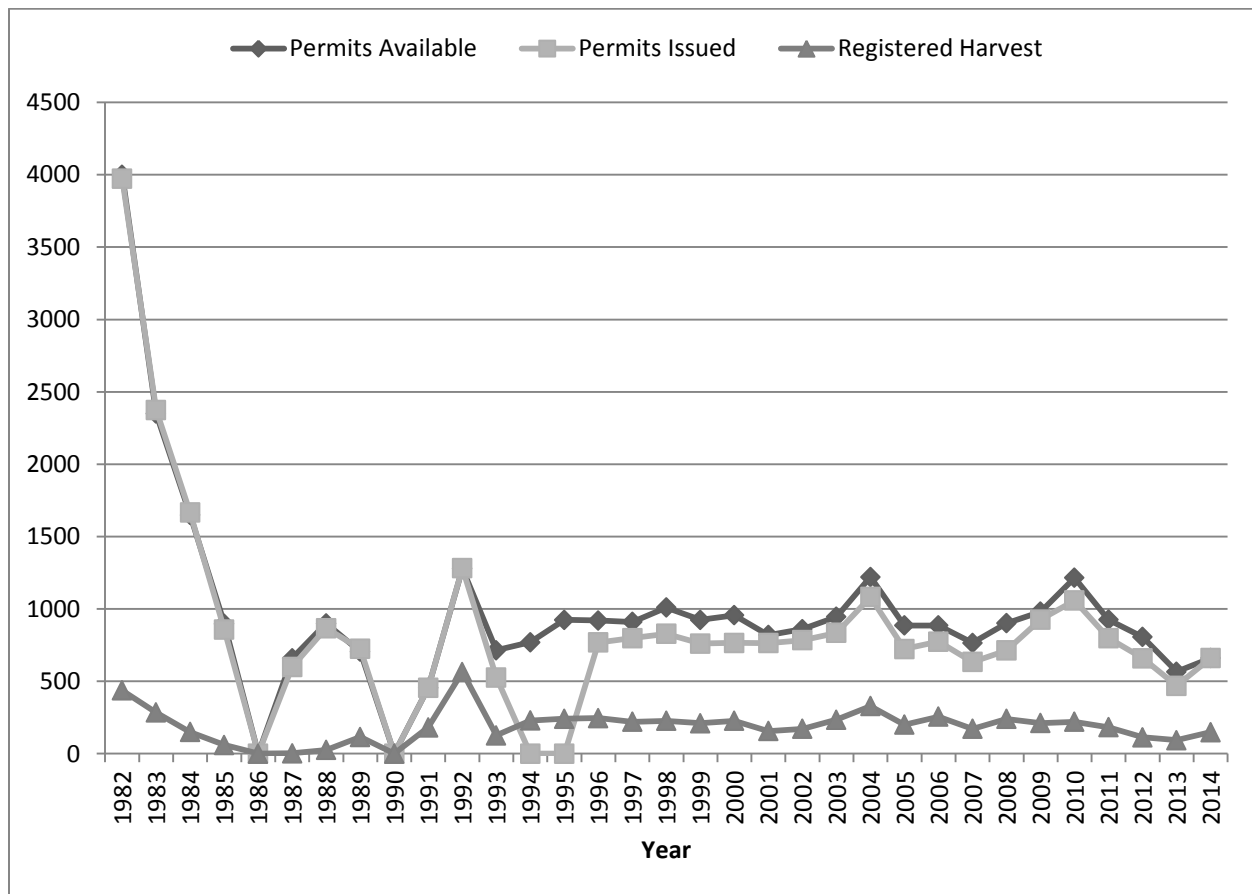


Figure 1. Permits issued, registered harvest, and permits available for the white-tailed deer hunts 1982 – 2014 at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, MI.